

Calendar No. 1878

82D CONGRESS }
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
{ No. 1936

SISTER HELENA GINAL, SISTER ANNA SZOLDRSKA,
SISTER ANNA GLUCHOWSKA, AND SISTER BRONISLAWA
SZEWCZYK

JUNE 27, 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the
following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 4157]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 4157) for the relief of Sister Helena Ginal, Sister Anna Szoldrska, Sister Anna Gluchowska, and Sister Bronislawa Szewczyk, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to four nuns. The bill provides for appropriate quota deductions and for the payment of the required visa fees and head taxes.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiaries of the bill are natives and citizens of Poland who last entered the United States as visitors on May 27, 1949. They are members of the Order of Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul and are presently engaged in hospital duties.

A letter dated February 14, 1952, to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case reads as follows:

FEBRUARY 14, 1952.

Hon. EMANUEL CELLER,

*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (H. R. 4157) for the relief of Sister Helena Ginal, Sister Anna Szoldrska, Sister Anna Gluchowska, and Sister Bronislawa Szewczyk, aliens. The bill would grant them permanent residence in the United States.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that the aliens are Roman Catholic nuns, members of the Order of Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul. They are natives and citizens of Poland. They were born on February 8, 1901 January 29, 1886, April 22, 1912, and July 12, 1902, respectively. They entered the United States at the port of San Francisco, Calif., on May 27, 1949, when they were admitted as temporary visitors to August 26 1949. Their temporary admissions were extended to August 25, 1951. At the time of arrival they were destined to Marillac Seminary, Normandy, Mo., where they remained for about 2 weeks. Sister Helena Ginal and Sister Anna Szoldrska are now employed at the De Paul Hospital, St. Louis, Mo., as floor supervisor of the obstetrics division, and the supervisor of the tray service of the hospital, respectively. Sister Anna (Angela) Gluchowska and Sister Bronislawa (Bernice) Szewczyk are employed at St. Mary's Hospital, Milwaukee, Wis., in the surgical department. For their services they receive room, board, clothing, and spending money. They stated that they came to the United States primarily to rest and recover their health, and then intended to return to China but have since been advised by their superiors that they cannot return to China due to unsettled conditions in that country. Prior to arrival in this country, these aliens had been employed in various capacities by their order in a hospital, school, and mission located in Chunfhefu, China. When the Communists took that town in 1948 they were permitted to operate for a while, but later the mother superior, Sister Helena Ginal, was put in jail and the sisters were kept as virtual prisoners for 8 months, after which they were ordered expelled from the country. All the property of the mission was seized and the children, who were wards of the mission, were placed with Chinese families in the city. The aliens finally reached Shanghai, China, and from there proceeded to the Philippine Islands. After 3 months they secured visitor visas to come to the United States.

The files further disclose that Sister Helena Ginal joined the order in 1920 and was sent to China in 1931. Her father, four brothers, and three sisters reside in Poland. Sister Anna Szoldrska joined the order in 1911 and was sent to China in 1933. Her parents are dead. She has a brother and sister residing in Poland. Sister Anna Gluchowska joined the order in 1932 and was sent to China in 1936. Sister Bronislawa (Bernice) Szewczyk joined the order in 1924 and was sent to China in 1932.

The quota for Poland to which the aliens are chargeable, is oversubscribed and immigration visas are not readily obtainable. In the absence of special legislation they will be required to leave the United States and await their regular turns for the issuance of immigration visas.

Whether, under the circumstances the requirements of the immigration laws should be waived in the cases of these aliens presents a question of legislative policy concerning which the Department of Justice prefers not to make any recommendation.

Sincerely,

A. DEVITT VANECH,
Deputy Attorney General.

Congressman Frank M. Karsten, the author of the bill, submitted to a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives the following information in connection with the bill:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., May 18, 1951.

HON. FRANCIS WALTER,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Immigration, House Judiciary Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am enclosing a copy of H. R. 4157, which I introduced in the House on May 17, 1951.

The measure concerns four Polish Sisters of Charity who are now in the United States on temporary visas which expire May 20. The sisters came to the United States on May 27, 1949, starved, beaten, and nervous wrecks, after unspeakably brutal treatment at the hands of the Communists in China whom they went to serve.

Two of the sisters, Sister Helena Ginal and Sister Anna Szaldvaska, are at the DePaul Hospital in St. Louis, where their services are necessary, as war work has added to the natural shortage of help at the hospital, and my personal friend, Dr. R. Emmet Kane, who is on the staff there tells me he does not know how they could get along without these hard-working sisters. Dr. Kane was the physician who attended our late friend, John Cochran, and is one of the most outstanding surgeons in St. Louis.

The other two sisters are serving in Milwaukee, Sister Angela Gluchowska, who is charge of pediatrics and Sister Bernice Szweczyk, who is working in the surgical department of St. Mary's Hospital there. As you know, these Sisters of Charity do not receive pay for their services and they often do the kind of work in hospitals for which it is almost impossible to hire help.

Archbishop Ritter of St. Louis is also interested personally in these cases, as is the Auxiliary Bishop, Most Rev. John P. Cody. A copy of Bishop Cody's letter of May 4, is enclosed.

In the past I have refrained from introducing any private bills, but these cases appear to be so deserving I felt I should do so in this instance. Any consideration that might be given to them will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK M. KARSTEN.

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS,
St. Louis 8, Mo., May 4, 1951.

HON. FRANK M. KARSTEN,
House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. KARSTEN: The sister superior of DePaul Hospital here in St. Louis Sister Andrea, has asked my help in trying to obtain the permission from the United States immigration authorities for four Polish sisters of their community who were driven out of China and who are presently being permitted to remain at DePaul Hospital.

It appears that these sisters were given an opportunity to stay here in the United States for a short time but since now that they are anxious to engage in studies, and as they are such an assistance to the Daughters of Charity who run the DePaul Hospital, I would appreciate anything that you might do for them.

Enclosed are three copies of a brief sketch of their difficulties. They came here, as you will note from the attached, from China, having been expelled from there by the Communists. They arrived here in the United States on May 27, 1949, and they were then given permission by temporary visa to remain here until May 1951. It would appear now that it will be necessary to introduce a special bill in Congress to allow them to remain here in the United States.

Thanking you for whatever help you may be able to render in this perplexing case and with kindest personal regards, I am, dear Mr. Karsten,

Very truly yours,

JOHN P. CODY
(Most Reverend John P. Cody),
Auxiliary Bishop of St. Louis.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (H. R. 4157) should be enacted.

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